

The BLUES NEWS The official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers Football Club

How the South Stand will look: See centre pages Issue No. 26

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Seymour Taylor

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THE BLUES NEWS

New strip's a hot one

ONE of the most emotive ONE of the most emotive parts of my job as sales and marketing manager of Wycombe Wanderers Football Club is to try and assimilate all the views of the supporters, players, management and board of directors with regards to the design of the home shirt.

to the design of the home shirt. There are those who think rep-lica shirts should always be the same year in, year out. Then, as and when they wear out, or get too small, the average supporter will simply buy a new one. If only this were true! The real-ity is more and more clubs bring-ing out more and more shirts per season.

season.

One thing that I am proud of at Wycombe Wanderers is that we have a board of directors that has stuck by keeping every home shirt

stuck by keeping every home shirt for two years.

However, as everybody knows, the current home strip will not be used by the first team next season. The hunt for a new design is on. As we have had several different designs of sky and navy quarters during the past few seasons, it is very difficult to keep altering the design without changing the basic theme.

Unless any new design is differ-

basic theme.
Unless any new design is different, there is no real incentive for
supporters to buy. Obviously it is
in any club's interests for their
supporters to like their shirts, as
replica sales are a vital element in



earning income to pay players' wages and transfer fees etc.
Wycombe Wanderers are keen to get the individual views of their supporters. We recently wrote to every season ticket holder, share-holder and Leagueline member to ask their views.

ask their views.

More importantly, we have officially approached both the Official Blues Supporters' Association and the Wycombe Wanderers Independent of the Supporters' Club to ask their members for their opinions.

bers for their opinions.

The club will take as many views into account as possible before manufacture of the new replica shirts. However, one thing is for sure, the feelings on quartered shirts run deep, and the final decision on our new strip will be made by chairman Ivor Becks.

The comments I have received to date is that supporters generally do seem to want to maintain the theme of sky and navy quarters.

Let's hope the designers can come up with a new home shirt design that suits everybody for the 1996/97 and 1997/98 seasons, and that the club do not end up being hung, drawn and quartered.

Another hot potato is what colour kit we should play in away from home. There are those who believe we should always wear our home kit, unless it clashes, a view I have a lot of sympathy with.

There are those who like to see us wear our away kits, as they have purchased them from the club shops and expect us to play in them. Again, the revenue from away kit sales is crucial to help pay the bills.

However, one thing I personally

e have offithe Official
crets Inde'Obviously it is in any
club's interests for
their supporters to
like their shirts'

away KII Sales is described.
However, one thing I personally
disagree with is only wearing part
of the home kit away from home.
This would not
ever happen at
Adams Park.
So fithere is a
clash, the away
strip should be
worn (I refer to
those famous

white shorts!). Those famous white shorts!). You can not have your cake and eat it. If there is a clash, the complete away kit should be worn, and not a hybrid of the home strip. Likewise, if there is not a clash, the complete home strip should be

the complete home strip should be worn away. All such opinions are invalid, though, as the manager has the final say.

Moving onto the supporters'

survey published in last month's Blues News. We intend to publish all the results in next month's edition. Again, we can only provide the best possible service to our supporters if you will kindly let us know your opinions.

With the New South Stand now to be started in the next few weeks, we would really appreciate knowing your views on next season, as well as what you have thought of the service you have been offered this season.

If you still have not filled one in and entered the prize draw, please do so before 3pm on Saturday, February 24. The draw will be made at half time on the pitch.

Please return all completed questionnaires (maximum one per person) to the Commercial Office, WWFC, Adams Park, Hillbottom Road, Sands, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 4HJ by no later than 3pm before tomorrow's game against Stockport County in a Division Two match. It's Quid-A-Kid tomorrow on the terraces at Adams Park for children under 16. On March 2, when Wycombe play Swindon Town, MBNA International Bank Ltd will be doing a direct promotion for both the Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card.

When we play Brentford on March 16, we will hold the first ever 'Mothers Day'. There will be special of fifers to coincide with Mothering Sunday the next day.

Get your team kitted out in a Wander-ful way

WYCOMBE Wanderers Football Club are launching a special offer Park Kit Deal to amateur football teams around the local

area.
The club are offering a brand new Wycombe Wanderers full kit (shirt, shorts and socks) for 12 outfield players for just £240 kids or adults plus a complete goalle kit for free with free delivery.
There is also the option to get all the kit numbered 1 to 13/14 for an additional £30. There are

three different style kits available in sky and navy (home strip), yellow with navy trim (away strip), red and black stripe (hird strip).

The adult park kit deal offer is only available in the yellow strip.

**Sizes of kit:

**Reds shrin: the to tour year olds (20in, before its county of the strip of t

For more information or a chance to view the kits please ring (01494) 472100.

ring (01494) 472100.

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By design: This is one example of a possible new h

Any child under 16 can attend tomorrow's match against Stockport for just £1

Winter break's on sticky wicket

WITH all the recent cancella-tions that have affected our pro-gramme, there has again been much discussion on whether we

much discussion on whether we should take a winter break.

The problem is, of course, that you never know in England when you are going to get bad weather and it is possible you would have to take at least six weeks off to cover the bad weather period, and even the bad weather period, and even then you could still miss games because of the changes in climate.

Certainly I feel it would be difficult for clubs outside the Premier League to have a long break because of the financial implications and also the fact that the games over the Christmas period are generally well attended.

I am also not sure that supporters

erally well attended.

I am also not sure that supporters would want to give up their summer holidays to follow their teams, especially as we have such a heetic summer season in other sports, unlike many other European countries.

Previously in Blues News I have

By Manager Alan Smith



on many occasions referred to our flourishing youth section, and I think our achievements this season have been outstanding.

I also see this as one of our big successes this season and hope this continues.

continues.

From the point of view of a club like ours, it is essential that we produce several players each season from our own coaching facilities.

The youth team were desperately unlucky to lose to Crystal Palace away due to a last-minute goal last weekend.

However, this is a sile.

However, this is still a major achievement and shows how far we have progressed during the last six

months, especially as Crystal Palace are currently the leaders of the South East Counties League.

To say our performance against Chesterfield was a disappointment was an understatement and to have one week to prepare for a game and then find ourselves 2-0 down in 17 minutes was not good enough.

minutes was not good enough.

I felt desperately sorry for our supporters who had travelled and who continued to give us excellent support in the second half when we improved and could have got back into a game which we had virtually lost as soon as we arrived.

Pecentry I have seen some letters

Recently I have seen some letters Recently I have seen some letters on the possible changes to our playing kit, although in many ways this has been misrepresented as we have been looking more into the style of the kit so that it is comfortable for the players.

However, let me remind everyone that the most important thing is what is under the shirt – the heart and hooty that is big enough to fill it.

and body that is big enough to fill it

Latest Score - Tax Man 1 Taxpayer 0

Despite a massive campaign by the Inland Revenue, the majority of people in this country have taken little notice of Self Assessment and may lose out as a result. These questions and answers may help:

1. What is Self Assessment?

It's a new kind of tax system which gives much more responsibility to individuals for their own tax affairs. In other words, you do most of the work.

2. Will it affect me?

Yes if you're self-employed, an employee with benefits, a subcontractor, an employer, retired with investments or anyone who receives a Tax Return!

3. When does it start?

The first of the new style Tax Returns will be issued in April 1997, but some of the new rules take effect from 6 April this year.

4. What should I do now?

The most important thing is to get your tax affairs up to date, i.e. no outstanding Tax Returns, business accounts etc. Also, make sure you're familiar with all the new rules that apply to you.

5. What if I just ignore it?

You'll be in trouble! There will be penalties for all kinds of things, ranging from an initial fixed £100 fine for a late Tax Return, up to a £3,000 fine for "inadequate business records"

6. Do I have to use a professional adviser?

No you don't have to, but if you do make sure they're a member of a recognised professional body.

7. Where can I get more information?

You can get a free copy of Seymour Taylor's Rough Guide to Self Assessment by phoning Jack Schwarz on 01494 523254 during office hours, or writing to him at Seymour Taylor Chartered Accountants, 57 London Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP11 1BS. Or you could ask the tax man



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Noticeboard

Bookings being taken for dinners

THE remaining dates for the 1995/96 sportsman's dinners are as follows:

Monday, March 18: Guest speaker Ron Yates; comedian Malcolm White

Four tables of ten left at \$650 per.

Four tables of ten left at £350 per table or individual tickets at £40

each •Monday, May 13: Guest speaker Jim Watt; comedian Albie Senior Four tables of ten left at £350 per

ADAMS PARK Events Limite table or individual tickets at £40

each.

•Price includes five-course meal and entertainment. Dress is lounge suits. Bars open at 6pm until midnight. To book any of these dinners, please contact Mark Austin or Tim Arnold on (01494) 472100.

Snap up freebie with So Very Near

WHEN customers buy Wycombe
Wanderers' video So Very Near
from either Wanderers In Town or
the Corner Flag Club Shop they
can claim the High Fives video for
free.

High Fives, which is a compilation video of Wycombe Wanderers' back-to-back successes in the
Evening Standard Five-A-Side

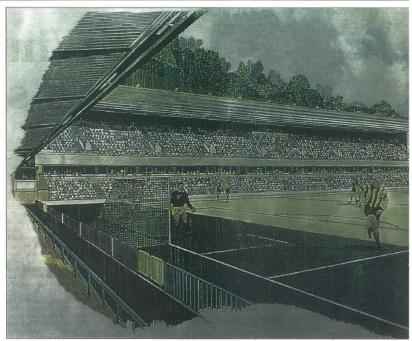
tournament, was released last Summer. It costs £14.99.
So Very Near is the compilation of Wycombe Wanderers' first season in the Endsleigh League Division Two. It shows all the goals throughout their nine-month campaign home and away and also contains the goals from their FA Cup run to the third round.

Deals available for backing players

IF you want to sponsor a player and would like more information on the package and prices, contact Tim Arnold at the Commerical Office, Adams Park on (01494) 472100.

Players who have already been snapped up are Simon Garner,

Terry Evans, Matt Crossley, Miquel Desouza, Keith Ryan, No. 13 Shirt, Steve Brown, Jason Cousins, Terry Howard, Dave Car-roll, David Farrell, Gary Patter-son, Steve McGavin, Mickey Bell, Paul Hardyman, John Williams and manager Alan Smith.



Dreamscape: This is how Wycombe Wanderers hope the New South Stand will look on completion by the sta

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WYCOMBE Wanderers Football Club have experienced their fair share of suc-cess over the years, ranging from two FA Trophy wins at Wembley to two consecu-

Trophy wins at Wembley to two consecutive promotion-winning seasons.

Despite these impressive achievements, the club's board of directors and staff have never lost sight of the importance of their supporters and are in the process of improving and expanding the existing facilities and services at Adams Park.

One of the biggest changes is the construction of the new 5,000, two-tier, cantilever stand which is to replace the existing Evans Halshaw stand and is due for completion by the beginning of next season.

WANDERERS LOOKING TO EXPAND By Tim Arnold

This terrace currently has a capacity of around 3,000. Along with this development will come a new supporters' bar which will overfook the pitch. There will be refreshment kiosks, programme stalls and 20 hospitality boxes as well as televisions in the concourse area and bar which will show the match live.

The new South Stand, which incorporates a 1,784 seater family stand area, shows how much emphasis the club are putting on

Bell blossoms in the winter time



MICKEY Beil was Wycombe Wanderers' top man for December with impressive perform-ances at left back. Here he receives his supporter's player of the month award from

Derek Vere, joint managing director of club sponsors Verco Office Furniture Ltd and Bill Garraway (left) who represents Graphic Arts Supplies Ltd who are Bell's sponsors. Derek Vere, joint mar

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next season. The club will mark the start of construction with a press launch next month

Special bus service to Adams Park Route A (Operated by Prestwood Travel) Route B (Operated by Prestwood Travel) Route C (Operated by Motts Travel) Route D (Operated by Motts Travel)

big plans

acting families and the younger support-This follows the opening of the club's tehday creehe Toddlin Wanderers which ers for 14 children aged between two-la-half and eight years old. This was ned at the beginning of the season and severy Saturday matchday afternoon. Vycombe Wanderers club shop at Adams k and Wanderers In Town are also being anded to improve the range of products leservices.

services.

dong with all three replica kits, lei-ewear, sportswear and souvenirs being ked, the shop now stocks a whole range professional Mitre shinpads, goalie gloves football boots. Wanderers in Town has

recently installed a heat fusion press so any sportswear or leisurewear can be numbered or personalised.

Wanderers In Town also offers a comprehensive mail order service which has proved to be a great success since being launched two years ago.

The club have also recognised the need for a matchday ticket outlet in the centre of High Wycombe due to the out-of-town location of Adams Park.

Tickets for all home fixtures can now be bought from Wanderers In Town, situated opposite Littlewoods in the Octagon Shop-ping Centre.

Glynn makes boss Neil Smillie

YOUTH team boss Neil Smillie picked James Glynn as his side's player of the month for January. The right back; is pictured here with his award which is sponsored by Lucozade Sport.

Glynn is part of the youth team's continued progress in the South East Counties League Division Two.

Blues are currently in second place in their second season in this particu-

ond season in this particular league.

Their finest win so far this term was a 5-2 victory over Bristol Rovers. It was followed up with a narrow 1-0 defeat against leaders Crystal Palace last weekend.

The youth team travel to Blues' old enemy Colchester United tomorrow.



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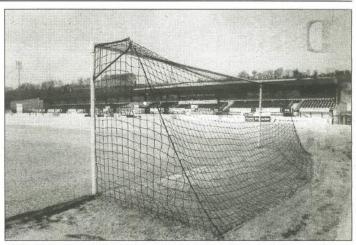
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Fourth Section

THE BLUES NEWS



Arctic or not, it's still bitter

FOR as long as I can remember, the footballing fraternity - players at all levels, manag-players at all levels, managers, commentators, pundits and fans - have been regularly accused of hyperbole, and in some cases it is per-

and in some cases it is perhaps justified.

'Diabolical' refereeing decisions can be unjust and badly mistaken, but are rarely given with any genuine satanic intent; a 'venomous' shot, while struck with accuracy and power, doesn't usually contain poison; 'footballing geniuses' possess an abundance of both skill and talent, but don't normally trouble Mensa for an application form.

And Dave Carroll probably isn't, in fact, the Son of God.

But the meteorological variety

But the meteorological variety so far offered by 1996 has shown up a breed far more guilty of extreme exaggeration: the weatherman.

weatherman.
Okay, so it's been cold enough to freeze pitches. It snowed and settled at the end of January and then again in February, but Arctic conditions? ARCTIC?
This surely has to be the icing on the embellishment cake. Admittedly, the roads became dangerous, the snow lasted for a few days, and the temperature remained on or around zero degrees centigrade, but this hardly constitutes Arctic. hardly constitutes Arctic.

nardiy constitutes Arctic.

If you had to chip through 3ft of snow and ice to reach turf gripped by permafrost and the thermometer had read a

By Darren Bignell

constant 25 below for a month, then such a description may be justified, but this hasn't to my

justified, but this hasn't to my knowledge been the case.

Of polar persuasion or not, however, the weather has taken its toll since the year began. Long gaps between games and postponed home ties have given this stage of the season a dislocated feel and only those stalwart folk who name themselves among the Blues' travelling support have seen much Wycombe action. action.

For the home fan and occa-sional traveller, January's scintil-lating Notts County game offered evidence of the Wanderoffered evidence of the Wanderers' potential when on-song even if the points were shared. But since then, most matches have been experienced either via Alan Hutchinson's lively coverage on elevenSEVENTY, or through the hideous medium of teletext. Whole baleful, yellow typeface achieves something approaching malevolence when you're losing.

There's little doubt that the level of cancellations has added weight to the mid-winter break argument, and although playing right through proves that our English lads are hardier than

right through proves that our English lads are hardier than most of their European counter-parts, having time off during the season offers many benefits.

the, dare I say it, Arctic condi-tions could be avoided and with a month to rest and treat existing injuries, many teams could man-age a second start with a full-

injuries, many teams could manage a second start with a fullstrength squad.

Those of us who develop weekly hypothermia on freezing terraces – where the only warmth is when your tightly clenched cardboard cup of tea seeps through your glove to offer momentary respite – would have a month without worrying which bits are going to fall off.

And the groundsmen may have an easier time of preserving the pitches and maintaining them until the season ends.

With this in mind, all credit must go to Jim Gardner and his team for producing such a fine surface following a decidedly inclement week, when Blackpool visited Adams Park the Saturday before last.

Sadly, the Blues couldn't find the performance to do it justice, but a tricky couple of months has set up a fascinating run-in for the remainder of the season.

A string of Saturday and midweek games at home means that not only will Wycombe fans be able to watch the confort

not only will wyconor the sale to able to watch the closing drama unfold largely from the comfort of Adams Park, but it also allows us to be part of the campaign.

Vocal support can often swing a match and if we can win the war on the terraces, maybe the team will be inspired to do the same on the pitch.

Tickets still valid

ALL tickets bought for the post-poned New Year's Day game against Rotherham United and the rescheduled date on February 6, which was also called off because

rescheduled date on February 6, which was also called off because of the weather, are still valid. The match will now be played on Tuesday, April 16 (ko 7.45pm). The February 6 programme will be sold on the new date, with the New Year's Day issue available for free.

Blues Travel Club's remaining prices for 1995/96 season

£8 £9.50 £8.50 £6 £10.50

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Don't judge bad results too swiftly

IF there's one thing that I have learned through watching football over the years, it's that you must never judge a player or a team on

never judge a player or a team on the basis of one game.

I am always amazed by how people can make sweeping generalisations based on the flimsiest of evidence. A perfect case in point came when Wycombe Wanderers recently played away games against Brentford and Bournemouth in the space of five days. On a grim Tuesday evening at Griffin Park the lads turned in a sub-standard performance and were deservedly beaten by a Brentford team which had been struggling all season.

However, I was taken aback by the negative reaction. I'm told that some spectators – I hesitate to call them suporters – hurled loud abuse in the direction of Alan Smith and the players as they feft the field.

Sure, it was a poor performance at

uon of Alan Smith and the players as they left the field.

Sure, it was a poor performance at Brentford, and sure, if you pay your money you can shout what you like, but was that level of abuse really justified?

Wasn't this the same team which had just produced excellent displays against Swindon, Notts County, Blackpool and even in defeat at Crewe?

Wasn't this the same team which had taken us to a comfortable position in the league table, just below the play-off places?

And wasn't this the same team which with a couple of adjustments, then produced a thrilling and victorious display at Bournemouth just five days later?

I think that Wycombe followers have a tendency to forget that there are 23 other clubs in Division Two who

23 other clubs in Division Two who are all just as keen to win matches as

are an last as keen to which are the wycomb in fact, Brentford were in the throes of a major revival when we played them and they had just won an FA Cup tie at Norwich, who were a Premiership club only last season.

I know that doesn't excuse our poor performance at Griffin Park, but it does surely put it into perspective. I think it's time that we had a few home truths.

We are Wycombe Wanderers, not Manchester United.

We have had less than three seasons in the Football League during which we have won far more games that we have lost.

We still have an excellent change of

We still have an excellent chance of promotion this season, but if we don't make it, that wouldn't represent a

Only three of the 24 clubs will be pro-

Only three of the 24 clubs will be promoted, another four will be relegated, and the other 17 somewhere in between can hardly be described as failures.

Can I remind the critics that supporters of clubs like Scarborough, Lincoln, Hereford, Doncaster, Scunthorpe and many more would love to trade places with Wycombe, and they have followed their favourite clubs through many years of failure and mediocrity.

A place in the top half of Division Two is something they dream about. Now, admittedly our ambitions and horizons go far beyond that at Wycombe Wanderers, but we must remain patient and realistic.

I have said many times before that

By Director Alan Parry



this club has the potential to emulate the achievements of Wimbledon by going from non-league to Premier League.

But, remember, even Wimbledon didn't manage to do that overnight.

The record books show that Wimbledon entered the Football League in 1977. Unlike Wycombe they did not achieve promotion in their first season. It took them another year to do that and they were promptly relegated after just one season.

In fact, exactly the same thing hap-

and they were promptly retegated and just one season.

In fact, exactly the same thing happened to Wimbledon during the following two seasons – promotion followed by relegation. It took Wimbledon seven years of membership of the Football League before they reached what is now the First Division and that was rightly regarded as a magnificent achievement.

So, if Wycombe are to emulate Wimbledon we still have time on our sideanother four years, in fact!

No-one is more passionate for the cause than I am, and no-one is more deeply disappointed when we lose. But you have to keep a sense of balance and remember how

remember how hard it is to score 'I think it's time we had a goal and how difficult it is to win a few home truths. We

a few home truths. We are Wycombe Wanderers, not Manchester United' a football match. History suggests that we're pretty good at both. Of course, I'd be delighted if Wycombe them and they the and the premiership. The could march straight through Division through from there into the Premiership. However, that's not going to happen with the country and I wish a we have come to expect success. Wanderers, not in three seasons turing which we est that we have the well are the well and the well are the we're pretty good at both. Of the we're pretty g

If only we could see ourselves as others see us.

The perception of Wycombe Wanderers throughout football is that we are a successful, progressive club. The perception of Wycombe Wanderers among some of our own followers is nowhere near as optimistic.

I have heard it said by our more reasonable supporters, the vast majority I'm glad to say, that some Wycombe fans have been spoil thy success.

I totally agree. Those marvellous years of rolling over the opposition in the Conference and glorious trips to Wembley have coloured the thinking of some people.

Wembiey have comments as some people.

But we're now in the world of professional football and life is going to be much harder. So, my message to the moaners is this: enjoy the good days and don't be so quick to condemn when things go wrong.

We're all in this together.

SPRING CLEARA

DATE: Sunday 25th February 1996 **VENUE:** Vere Suite, Adams Park TIME: 10.30am - 2.30pm

Wycombe Wanderers are holding a massive Spring Clearance Sale this Sunday in the Vere Suite at Adams Park. There will be many items heavily reduced including replica kit, leisure wear and sports wear. See below special

PARK KIT DEAL

12 Full outfield replica kits (Shirts, Shorts and Socks) any colour for just £240 plus a complete kids goalie Kids outfit absolutely FREE.

Adults 12 Full outfield replica kits (Shirts, Shorts and Socks) yellow strip for just £240 plus a complete adults goalie outfit absolutely FREE.

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Blue & Yellow Replica Shirts	£9.99 £9.99	Kid Adults
Blue, Black, Yellow and Goalie Replica Shorts	£6.99 £9.99	Kids Adults
Blue, R+B, Yellow & Goalie Replica Socks	£3.99	Kids & Adults
Goalie Shirts	£9.99	Kids & Adults
Wycombe Wanderers Sweat Shirts	£9.99	Kids & Adults
Jogging Bottoms	£4.99	Kids & Adults
Travel Suit (Bottoms)	£4.99	Kids & Adults
WWFC Shower Proof Training Suit (Top)	£19.99	Only Adult Sizes
WWFC Shower Proof Training Suit (Bottoms)	£9.99	Only Adult Sizes
Baseball Jackets	£14.99 £19.99	Kids Adults
Allover Print T-Shirts	£1.99	All Sizes
WWFC Ties	£1.99	Silver and Gold
Beam Us Up Scotty Video	£2.99	
Small Flags	50p	
Key Wallets	50p	
WWFC Team Poster	50p	
Mitre Tactic Footballs	£4.99	
WWFC Jacquard Scarfs	£2.99	
Flat Caps	50p	

It's a pain when matches are off



TERRY HOWARD

A GREAT deal of effort goes into

A GREAT deal of effort goes into arranging matches at Adams Park, especially when there is a possibility of the game being postponed due to bad weather.

Every member of staff including the players need to earry out full preparations which can all prove a waste of time if the pitch is unplayable.

Therefore, Jim Gardner and his staff are under a great deal of pressure to get the game on.

I can assure every supporter that Jim tries to anticipate the conditions for the next game and works round the clock to try and ensure it goes ahead, but, unfortunately, it is just not possible sometimes.

The referee is of course the one who has the last word, his main item of criteria is to ensure the safety of the players. As one of them, and having played on very icy pitches before, I must respect his decision.

However, when he confirms the bad news, it is still a big disappointment.

Every detail of preparation will need to be arranged again at a later date.

CAPTAIN'S LOG By Terry Evans



Supporters may only consider the game itself but the hard work that goes on behind the scenes deserves a great deal

Our present run can best be described as patchy. We played very well at home to Norts County and away at Crewe, even though we came away with nothing.

with nothing.

I was told that Brentford was poor, yet Bournemouth was inspiring and our

Terry Howard will be signing copies of his autobiography Oooh! at Wanderers in Town in the Octagon Shopping Centre TODAY between 2pm and 4pm.

last game before going to press was the home defeat by Blackpool where once again we were unable to score.

again we were unable to score.

I have stated before that every player, excluding our goalkeeper, must take responsibility for scoring which is why we continue to work hard on this in training.

Hopefully we will soon get the balance right and produce the goals from the long periods of domination that we have enjoyed in many of our games this season.

season.

Finally, for those who have not heard, Terry Howard's autobiography Oooh! is now on sale. I have already managed to grab a copy but I am waiting for our next away trip to get stuck into it.

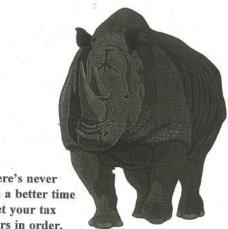
I have read.

into it.

I have read many books by all sorts of footballers but it makes a nice change for a player from the lower divisions to put his experiences into words, especially after reading some excerpts in the Bucks Free Press.

Should any supporter want to buy a copy, they are available from the club shop priced £10.99.

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